AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

- 1.-25. (Canceled)
- 26. (Currently Amended) A material for encapsulating a therapeutic and nutritional agent that is storage unstable, wherein the material is the product of a process comprising the steps of:
- (A) treating a starch to increase the number of sugar reducing groups in the resulting treated starch;
- (B) forming a dispersion of a film forming protein and the treated starch in an aqueous phase;
- (C) 'mixing the agent with the dispersion to form a mixture; and then
- (D) homogenizing the mixture to obtain an <u>agent-in-water</u> emulsion, such that the treated starch and the film forming protein form a protective shell around the agent during the homogenizing step, which shell allows release of the agent in the gastrointestinal tract.
- 27. (Previously Presented) The material of claim 26, wherein the process further comprises spray drying the emulsion.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The material of claim 26, wherein the film forming protein includes milk proteins.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The material of claim 26, wherein the agent comprises at least one from the group consisting of lipids, oil soluble, and oil dispersible ingredients.
- 30. (Previously Presented) The material of claim 26, wherein the starch comprises resistant starch.
- 31. (Previously Presented) The material of claim 26, wherein the starch comprises waxy maize or wheat starch.

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- 32. (Previously Presented) The material of claim 26, wherein step (A) occurs by microfluidisation.
- 33. (Previously Presented) The material of claim 26, wherein step (A) occurs by ultrasonics.
- 34. (New) The material of claim 26, wherein step (A) includes treating the starch with high pressure processing.